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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**Applicants** 

Application No.

DEC 3 0 2002

For

Filed

Mary E. Brunkow et al.

09/697,340

October 24, 2000

IDENTIFICATION OF THE GENE CAUSING THE MOUSE

SCURFY PHENOTYPE AND ITS HUMAN ORTHOLOG

Examiner

Michail A. Belyavskyi

Art Unit

1644

Docket No.

240083.501D4

Date

December 30, 2002

Box Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

## AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Office Action sent September 30, 2002, by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter PTO), please amend the application as follows:

In the Abstract:

Please replace the original Abstract with the following rewritten Abstract:

Isolated nucleic acid molecules are provided which encode Fkh<sup>sf</sup>, as well as mutant forms thereof. Also provided are expression vectors suitable for expressing such nucleic acid molecules, and host cells containing such expression vectors. Assays that are based upon the nucleic acid sequences disclosed herein (as well as mutant forms thereof), may be used for identifying numerous molecules that modulate the immune system. Molecules that specifically bind to an Fkh<sup>sf</sup> polypeptide are also provided as useful, such as, for modulating the biological activities of Fkh<sup>sf</sup>. In particular, antibodies that are specific for an Fkh<sup>sf</sup> polypeptide are provided